



WASHINGTON STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

January 11, 2006

TO: Commission Members

FR: Mark Clark and Debbie Becker

RE: PRIORITIES OF GOVERNMENT Update

The Priorities of Government (POG) process has been reconvened for Round III. For this particular round, agencies are allowed to send an alternate along with the Director. Debbie Becker of the Commission staff has joined the POG III process.

As a matter of background, POG is used to determine the list of priorities for funding and submitted to the Office of Financial Management for consideration by the Governor. The Conservation Commission is a member of priority # 8 – Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources.

To allow agencies more time to evaluate and plan budgets in line with the priorities and indicators, OFM convened all the POG groups in early November with to review the previous report and edit the performance measures and key strategies.

To date, four meetings have been held and most of the work completed until fall 2006. The two indicators and strategies that most affect the Conservation Commission are as follows:

Key Strategy	Indicator / Reportables
Preserve, maintain and restore natural systems and landscapes	Cumulative number of streamside acres enrolled in riparian buffer programs**
Change individual practices and choices	Number of landowners and acres voluntarily participating in conservation plan development and implementation

**This indicator is for all the natural resource agencies providing funding for installation of riparian buffers. For the Conservation Commission, the means reporting all buffers installed through the grant programs rather than just the CREP program.

Agency responsibilities for the interim are still being formulated. It is possible that the Commission staff will be participating in several additional meetings with other natural resource agencies through the Spring and Summer preparing responses to OFM assignments. When those are known, they will be reported to the Commission Members.